

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/741,252

Examiner

Ali Bayat

Applicant(s)

HIGGS ET AL.

Art Unit

2625

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed on 7/01/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-8 and 13-15 (renumbered as 1-11).
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 21 December 2000 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.


Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


YON J. COUSO
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1-8 and 13-15 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Based on applicant's amendment filed on 7/01/04, and by canceling the claims 9-12, the art rejection for claims 9-12 has been withdrawn, therefore application is allowed, further that claims 1-8 and 13-15, were allowed in previous office action filed on 2/05/2004.

The prior art of Saran provides for a data compactor circuit described herein has a variety of uses and can be most easily explained in terms of its uses and can be most easily explained in terms of its use in a computer controlled facsimile system for the transmission of image signal data. Regarding claim 1, the prior art of Saran does not teach the feature of "repeatedly counting the next number of consecutive bits having a binary state differing from that of the binary state of the previously counted number of consecutive bits and thereafter generating a numerical representation of the next number of consecutive bits having the binary state differing from that of the binary state of the previously counted number of consecutive bits until there are no remaining bits of information to be counted in the bitmapped file," that, in combination with the other claim limitations. Regarding claim 6, the prior art of Saran does not teach the feature of "repeating said steps of reading a further plurality of equally valued bytes of information from the stored file of information and setting the same number of pixels equal to a state opposite from the state of the previously set number of pixels for each of the further equally valued bytes of information that are read and further reading of a byte of information from the stored file of information that is not the value of each of the equally

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valued bytes of information; and setting a number of pixels equal to the value of the read byte of information until all bytes of information have been read." That, in combination with the other claim limitations. Regarding claim 13, the prior art of Saran does not teach the feature of "a processor operative to read information stored in a memory wherein stored information includes a number of bytes of information collectively defining a numerical representation as to the number of consecutive pixels in an image equal to a first pixel state followed by an number of bytes of information collectively defining a numerical representation as the number of consecutive pixels in the image equal to a second pixel state opposite to said first pixel state, each number of bytes including a number of equally valued bytes wherein the number of equally valued bytes is an integer obtained by dividing the number of consecutive pixels in the image of the given data by a numerical constant." that, in combination with the other claim limitations.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ali Bayat whose telephone number is 703-306-5915. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Thur 9:00-7:00 PM.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bhavesh Mehta can be reached on 703-3085246. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Ali Bayat *AB*
Patent examiner
Group Art Unit 2625
9/01/04

Yon J. Coluso
YON J. COLUSO
PRIMARY EXAMINER